



southern california dx club

March 2005



Honoring the WJLD WOMEN of the SCDXC

Soap Box— Words from our President



As most of you know by now, last month the club lost one of it's favorite Wild Women, Susie Shore, AD6SU, became a SK. Susie was liked by everyone and her services were attended by several hundred of her friends and relatives. Susie has been a fixture in this club for many years and she will truly be missed by all of us.

The 3Y0X DXpedition was postponed until 2006, Bubba, W6ZPL and I picked up a very disappointed Bob, N6OX from the airport and while he had a good time on his shortened trip he described it has an emotional roller coaster. The two weeks he spent in Argentina and Chile were quite an adventure and I'm sure we will be hearing more about this at one of the upcoming meeting.

The 2005 board had it's first meeting in February and of course we picked the absolute worst day to travel the freeways. It was pouring rain but everyone was able to make it to and from the meeting safely. One thing the board decided to do is to try to relieve some of the workload of the Vice President. As things stand now if it is to be done in this club the VP is the one who does it. So to that end we are looking for a few volunteers to handle a couple of the tasks of the club. We would like someone to handle raffle ticket sales at the meetings. This is actually one of the best jobs as you are assured of meeting almost everyone at the meeting. We are also looking for someone to handle the June picnic. We have the location reserved already but we are looking for a person to handle the logistics. If you would be willing to do either of these jobs Bubba would like to hear from you.

(Continued on page 7)

de the Veep

Hello to all. February is almost gone and getting closer to the Visalia DX Convention. When I was a kid I was always looking forward to Christmas, I'm not sure what happened to the next 50 years, but I now look forward every year to April and Visalia, I guess I'm still the kid looking for some fun and excitement. Yes, Phil, W6UC, I'll be sitting with you and the Monument, Otto, listening to the stories fly.



The February SCDXC meeting was well attended as usual. The Park Ranger was a little late opening up, but everyone pitched in and got us started. The Prez, Jim, N6DHZ, did a nice Peter 1 presentation on the current DXpedition team getting ready to go. He had many pictures and a lot of comments on our own N6OX. I have no words for the hat he was wearing! I am sure he will stand out amongst the Penguins. Then he had a video on the last Peter 1 DXpedition in 1994. All I can remember is the cold, oh it's cold. I hope when you read this you will have already worked Peter 1 for a new one or a band filler. I was really surprised that less than half those in attendance had confirmed Peter 1.

The February meeting had a real Valentine's Day feel thanks to Janie, K6ZPL She had balloons and decorated cupcakes, even some juice and cups. Good job and thanks for the help. She also decorated the YL drawing gift, a tradition for the February meeting. I did hear it called the "sweetheart drawing" and congratulations to Eyvoughn (W6NRQs YL). She won a \$50 gift certificate to The Outback. I hope she takes you to dinner Steve.

That's all from Bubba this month. See you in the Peter 1 pileups and remember, please show courtesy and restraint to us little Peanut Whistle stations (me) and let me make contact first. As always, Bubba says...." See you next month" 73s and Good DX.

Next General Meeting

The SCDXC meets the second Thursday of the month. Our next meeting will be held March 10, 2005 at Syd Kronenthal Park in Culver City. The park is located 4 blocks west of La Cienega Blvd. and 2 blocks south of Washington Blvd. From the 10 Freeway exit La Cienega south to Washington Blvd. Turn right (west) 4 blocks to McManus Ave (it's La Cienega Ave to the right, McManus to the left). Turn left (south) 2 blocks to the Park. The street dead-ends at the parking lot.

Please do not park in the school lot.

FROM THE SECRETARY



Now that February is come and gone, it is not forgotten. We had a great meeting and program. Where else could you have gone and got good info, good fun, lots of laughs, good prizes and CUP CAKES too. Janie, K6ZPL, who also bought the prize that was given to the lucky YL for our annual valentines day YL festival, treated us. Thank you Janie. More later.

We had two guests presented tonight, Dave Bell brought Dave, K3---, and Joel, WB6--- who hadn't been to a meeting since the Clifton days. Welcome back and please come again and don't wait so long next time. Dave, you too, please come back soon. To the both of you I truly apologize for missing your call signs, QRM and all, or was it High speed CW? One more guest didn't get a chance to get recognized was Eyvoughn (E-Vaughn), my XYL. She hasn't been to a meeting since we met at the bank. Welcome Eyvoughn, come again, please.

Dick Norton, our newly elected district director, gave us a recap of the meeting he attended at the league. Subjects included LOTW, MODE/BAND DEFINATIONS, and donations brought a lively discussion. Interestingly, we can find humor in some of the most serious discussions.

This meeting was also one of the times during the year we salute our YL's, Valentines Day. This year, and I had nothing to do with it; honest, Eyvoughn won the prize, a gift certificate to The Outback. If I'm nice maybe she will take me with her...Along with the certificate Janie added a bunch of little goodies in the bag with a balloon, candy kisses for some lucky guy.

As always, prizes are one of the prime times of our meeting and this was no exception. Joe, K5KT got the first pick with the Hiel head Set. Dave Bell followed taking the indoor/outdoor thermometer. Joe would come back one more time and Dave would come back for a 3 peat. Lucky guys. Congratulations.

Did I forget? Dues are past due and unless you are paid up you might not get this notice. If anyone knows of someone that hasn't paid please tell him to catch up. Larry will thank you.

Bubba started his reign in good fashion. He had Jim present the program.

What a job, and a great program. PETER 1.

Peter 1, circa 1994. Trials, tribulations, freezing cold, and daily serenades by the PENQUIN CHORAL GROUP. Good luck to the 2005 bunch. We wish you God speed and a safe return.

Till next time, see you in the pile up's, Steve, w6nrq

2005 INTERNATIONAL DX CONVENTION

Apr 15-17, 2005 - 2005 International DX Convention, sponsored by Northern California DX Club, will be held at the Holiday Inn Hotel & Conference Center, Visalia, CA. Convention website: <http://www.ncdxc.org/> Contact Dick Letrich, W6KM, 408-267-2624, dlw6km@aol.com

REPATER INFORMATION

Ed, N6OU, informed us that W6AM/R will be off the air for a few weeks as repairs are necessary at the site. This is expected in March/April. A special Bulletin will be published when the machine is off the air.

NOTICE NOTICE NOTICE

Programs and Newsletter articles are always wanted. This is a chance to improve the quality of your club. Send ideas for programs to our VP and articles for the Newsletter to the editor.

Propagation March 2005

by Shel, W6EL



These predictions for the five prime HF bands show the times when propagation is expected to be best from Los Angeles to several locations that are expected to be active during the coming month.

Other times are possible, but with weaker signals or lower probability. Openings are not expected on bands that are not

listed. A solar flux of 78, corresponding to a sun-spot number of 30, and an average geomagnetic field are assumed. Sunrise/sunset times are at the DX location. All times are UTC.

Good luck and good DX from Shel, W6EL.

AH8 Swains Island - 3/4 to 3/8 - Beam 238 degrees

Sunrise/sunset (on 3/4) 1731/0541

80: 0700-1400.

40: 0530-1430.

20: 0230-0430 and 1700-1730.

15: 1800-0230.

10: 2130-2300.

V3 Belize - 3/2 to 3/10 - Beam 115 degrees

Sunrise/sunset (on 3/6) 1212/2358

80: 0300-1200.

40: 0200-1230.

20: 1500-0130.

15: 1930-2200.

FY (TO7C) French Guiana - 3/7 to 3/17 - Beam 100 degrees

Sunrise/sunset (on 3/12) 0942/2140

80: 0300-0930.

40: 0130-1000.

20: 2130-0330.

15: 1600-2400.

GJ (MJ) - 3/9 to 3/16 - Beam 37 degrees

Sunrise/sunset (on 3/13) 0631/1805

80: 0400-0530.

40: 0230-0600.

15: 1730-1900.

XV Vietnam - 3/14 to 3/17 - Beam 312 degrees

Sunrise/sunset (on 3/16) 2306/1103

40: 1130-1400.

20: 1530-1630.

15: 2300-0300.

CT3 Madeira - 3/10 to 3/24 - Beam 57 degrees

Sunrise/sunset (on 3/17) 0719/1912

80: 0400-0630.

40: 0200-0730.

20: 2330-0400.

15: 1630-2100.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY BUBBA!



Bubba's 60th Birthday is the 28th so today (26th) his wife Janie, K6ZPL is throwing him a surprise party. So to throw him off on the 23rd I cooked up a little surprise party at the local cafe where we all eat regularly. The two Girls in the picture decided to go over and get a couple of lei's and a grass skirt to dress him up a little. Bubba was a real good sport about it and spent about two hours in the restaurant dressed in his new outfit.

De N6DHZ



IOTA activity

byFred N6AWD

Look for IOTA activity in March from Kadek YB9BU on Marabatua island which has not been activated before. This will be an all time new one. The call sign will be YB7M and will start up on the 9th of March for 4 to 5 days. Also from Indonesia OC-217 will be on the air for a few days starting the 26th of March on Kangean island. This one has not been on the air since 1996. From South America, French Guiana's only IOTA number SA-020 will be activated for one week starting the 10th of March using the call sign TO7C. Recently announced activation from Swains island will produce a rare IOTA with the call sign KH8SI starting March 5th, designated OC-200.



Frequently asked questions concerning IOTA: "WHICH ISLANDS COUNT".....Islands must not lie in rivers, inland lakes or largely enclosed bays. They must be either 1 Kilometer in length or shown on a 1:1,000,000 scale map. Many are grouped wherever possible since they are far too numerous to be allowed to count separately. "WHAT IS THE SCORING SYSTEM".....You count one credit for a confirmed contact with each numbered IOTA group listed in the IOTA directory. No additional credit is given for a second confirmed contact either with the same island or another island in the group. "WHAT ABOUT QSL CARDS".....All credits will be issued only after QSL cards for each IOTA group has been verified by a regional checkpoint [For W6s its W9DC].

Susie Shore, AD6SU, SK



We are sad to report that Susie Shore passed away on Feb 18, 2005, just 10 days before her 62nd birthday.

Susie was a "Wild Woman" and held the Amateur Extra License She had worked just under 150 countries. She liked the "people" more than the radio.

Convention time was some of her happiest days.

She is survived by her husband Harv, K6EXO, four children, including N6EOF, and five grandchildren.

10th annual Islands On The Air (IOTA) Dinner Announcement

The 10th annual Islands On The Air (IOTA) Dinner will be held Friday, 15 April 2005 at the Birch Room of the Holiday Inn Hotel and Conference Center, 9000 W. Airport Drive, Visalia, CA 93277 in conjunction with the 56th Annual International DX Convention.

The program for this event is as follows:

- Eyeball discussions (drinks available)
- 1830 Welcoming/Introductions (dinner orders taken)
- 1845 Dinner served
- 1900 IOTA DXpedition program presentations:
 - "IOTA-Going Online" by G3ZAY
 - "Ascuncion Is (NA-164) & Santa Ines Is (NA-165)" by N6VR, XE2K, and N6JV
 - "Battle Island (NA-044)" by AD5A
 - "Rennelle Island (SA-094)" by K9AJ
- Other programs may be added as time permits.

The dinner is available at a cost of \$21/person off a limited dinner menu that offers a main entree choice of New York Steak, Red Snapper, or Chicken Cordon Bleu. Each meal will be served with salad, vegetables, dinner rolls, desert, and a beverage (coffee, ice tea, or water).

Reservations are not required, but seating in the Birch Room is limited to about 120. This event is open to all radio amateurs and spouses/families are encouraged to attend. There is no charge to attend and watch the programs (there will be door prizes provided by the IOTA sponsoring organization, the Radio Society of Great Britain, RSGB).

For additional information regarding this event, contact:

Jim Zimmerman, N6KZ
 2316 W. Dallin Street
 Lancaster, CA 93536-5702
 (661) 945-6539
Jimzim1@mindspring.com

Pre-Registration Form—International DX Convention (Visalia)

April 15-17, 2005

Banquet Meal Choice(s): C = Chicken, P = Prime Rib, S = Salmon, V = Vegetarian
 (Circle Below) Convention Meal Polo Shirts

Name _____ Call _____ C P S V M L XL XXL

Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Country, USA or (?) _____

Email address: _____ @ _____

Pre-Registration, Post Marked by 3-15-05, \$65.00 per person. ----- \$ _____

Convention Polo Shirts _____ X \$ 30.00 ----- \$ _____

After 3-15-05 or at the Convention = \$70.00 per person. ----- \$ _____

Non-Amateur: Dinner & Breakfast only, \$35.00 per person. ----- \$ _____

Your Check # _____ ----- Total \$ _____

Please, make check payable to: NCDXC Convention 05

(Please, do not send cash!)

Mail this form with payment to: IDXC 2005, c/o Dick Letrich, W6KM

3686 Kirk Road

San Jose, CA 95124-3816

KP1/5 Project Team

The KP1/5 Project Team in conjunction with the Lone Star DX Association wants to let you know that the effort to gain access to Navassa and Desecheo Islands has begun again. You will recall that Representative Nick Rahall (D-W.Va.) introduced H.R. 5361 in the 108th Congress. The bill has now been introduced in the 109th Congress and its number is H.R. 298. Fortunately, it is again a bipartisan bill with co-sponsorship by Representative Richard Pombo (R-Calif.). This bill requires the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to allow public access to the islands, which would open the door to Amateur Radio expeditions. As before and even more now, we need your help to ensure passage of this Bill in the House of Representatives. You can help by contacting your representative and encourage them to support H.R. 298 and become a co-sponsor. If you are not sure who or how to contact your representative, go to

<http://www.house.gov/writerep/>. Be sure to use your 9-digit zip code to ensure that you find the right representative. It is very important to use that same 9-digit zip code in your correspondence so that your representative knows that you are their constituent. You can find your 9-digit zip code by going to <http://zip4.usps.com/zip4/welcome.jsp>. Also, remember that emails are fine and please follow-up with a telephone call to ensure your request is being acted on. Insist on a point of contact for you to follow-up with. If you need assistance determining who your Congressman is or your correct 9-digit zip code, contact us at KP1-5@DXer.org.

There is another very important date coming in April. The KP1/5 Team will be traveling to Washington, D.C. to make a presentation on Capitol Hill. The purpose of the presentation is to educate our legislators about the Amateur Radio Service, highlight the importance of Amateur Radio and the vital role it plays in national and worldwide communications, and of course focus on the facts surrounding the Fish and Wildlife Service's unjustified closure of Desecheo and Navassa to Amateur Radio DXers and contesters. The presentation will take place on April 8th in the Longworth House Office Building. Your representative can contact Representative Rahall and Pombo's offices for the exact time and location. In summary, we are asking that you contact your Representative as soon as possible and ask them to support H.R. 298, co-sponsor the Bill, and finally encourage them or their staff to attend the briefing on Capitol Hill on April 8th. A sample letter to legislators, news updates and information about the KP1/5 Project can be found at www.KP1-5.com.

Please feel free to pass this information on to anyone who does not have electronic access and may be interested or can help.

Soap Box

(Continued from page 2)

He can be reached by e-mail at w6zpl@scdxc.org.

If you have not looked lately at the web site I understand from the webmaster that he has implemented some new scripting for viewing pictures and he now has pictures on the web from the last several picnics. He also told me he will be doing this for the Holiday Party pictures soon and for Visalia pictures, after April when he goes live with the 2006 Visalia pages. Also he wanted me to remind everyone if you have not updated you DX standings in awhile now would be a good time to do it. He will be doing an update on the roster and DX standings pages as soon as he gets the 2005 roster from Larry, K6YUI.

Speaking or our membership chairman, he also wanted to me to remind you that if your not reading this it's because you're no longer a member.

MOST WANTED

The list is topped by P5. The most-recent P5 operation was by Ed Giorgadze, P5/4L4FN, in 2001 and 2002, during which he logged more than 16,000 QSOs.

Number two on the list is Andaman and Nicobar Islands (VU4), although a post-survey DXpedition in December likely diminished worldwide demand, despite being cut short by the tsunami.

In third place--but topping the list in four US time zones--was Scarborough Reef (BS7). Fourth is Lakshadweep (VU7), and fifth is Yemen (7O). The DXpedition now set for next year from number six Peter Island (3Y/P) could blunt demand for that rare one. Rounding out the top 10 are Navassa Island (KP1) and Desecheo Island (KP5), both under jurisdiction of the US Fish and Wildlife Service which has denied visitation permission, Bouvet (3Y/B) and Kure Island (KH7K).

DXCC Desk The ARRL DXCC Desk has approved the R1MVI (Malyj Vysotskij Island) operation of September 10-13, 2004, and the Chesterfield Island (TX9) operation of October 2004 for DXCC credit.

Don, N6JC, tells about his new Steppir 4

he Steppir 4 element yagi is up and running. I am very happy with the initial performance it is giving me. The first time I applied power, my SWR meter went off scale and then I discovered I was transmitting on my second vfo on 40 meters. That corrected, the SWR was down in the noise. This antenna is MATCHED. I can run 1500 watts into it on 20 meters and my Drake MN2000 wattmeter on reverse power 200 watt scale is below 10 watts return power. The control unit in the shack is easy to use and I enjoy changing bands and listening to the noise level come up (Not that I like the noise in my neighborhood...hihi). I have put together several photos to give you a picture of how I put up the antenna entirely by myself except for raising in on the tower with my friend Gary, NY6Y, to help hoist.

The hardware arrived in two well packaged boxes via USP.

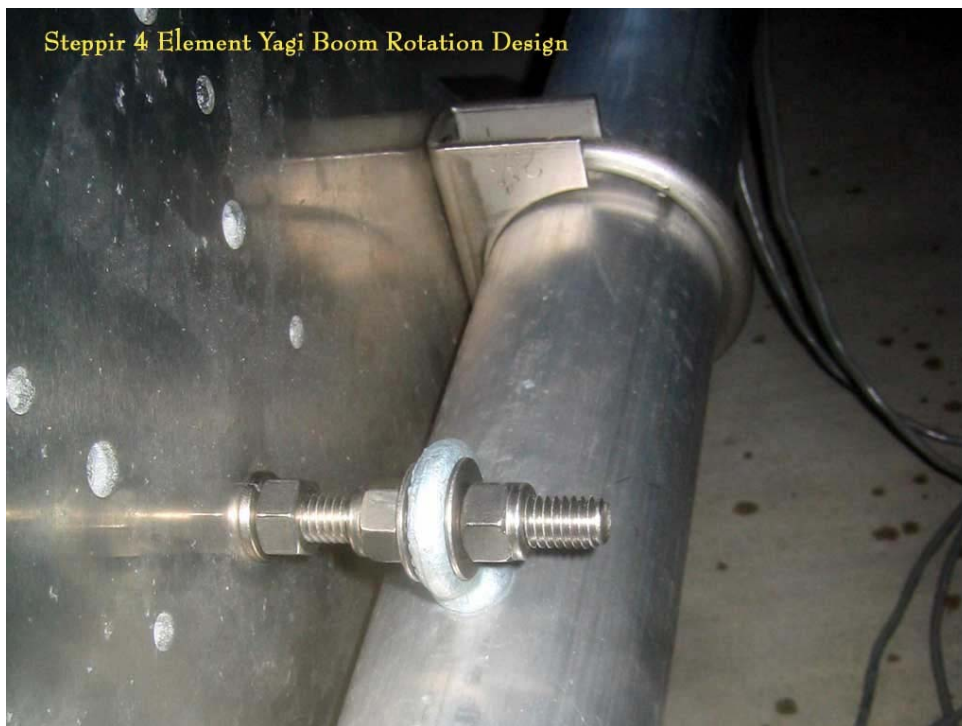


During assembly, it is to be noted that the hardware is clean, precision aligned, and clear to assemble with all stainless steel nuts and bolts. The assembly and use manuals are clear with no great hurdles. The manuals are under revision for a few points.



The elements extend out the 16 plus feet and are wrapped at the joints. The center joints are metal rein-

forced.



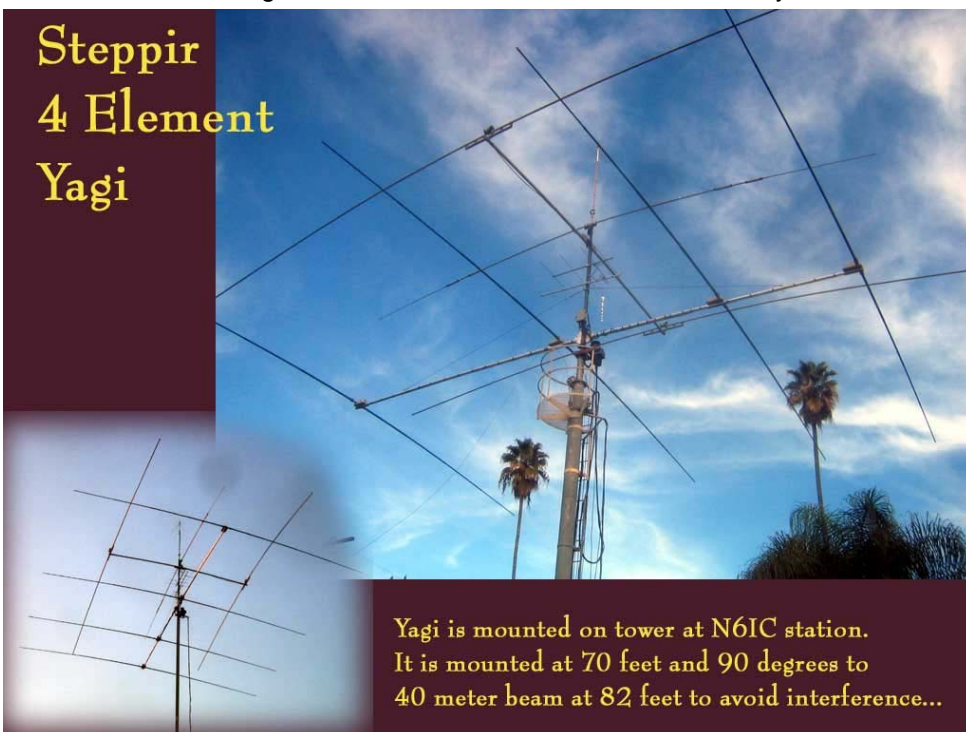
The boom assembly uses an eyebolt in the center which has been drilled in an alignment fixture at Steppir. This eyebolt is connected to the boom to mast plate so you can adjust the rotation of the boom for element leveling. (Nice design feature)



The yagi uses a Phillistran truss to further stabilize the antenna.



A sixteen conductor cable was used to set the elements. Each element has a four conductor control cable coming back to the boom to mast plate where a wire block is used to connect the controls. The wire block is then housed in a PVC pipe with end caps. The control cable comes with a connector installed on one end. I had to feed the cable out from the shack because of the connector and my cable routing path. Therefore it was good to color the block to ease the assembly on the tower.



The antenna is a good design and I am looking forward to some contesting with it. I hope this gives you a good perspective of what the antenna can do. I have not used it on 6 meters but it is nice to have the gain improvement on 12 and 17 meters. Please feel free to come over to see and use it.

73 Don N6IC

Who We Are

The SCDXC Newsletter is published monthly by the Southern California DX Club and is e-mailed to all club members.

Please notify the editor if you do not receive your newsletter, have a change of address, or have found an error.

Please direct all submissions to the editor.

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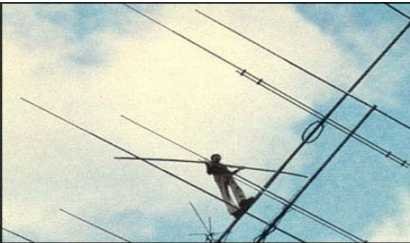
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A note from Urban

FYI...

Just completed the film "James Dean: Forever Young" and have been informed by the director the festival committee has viewed & accepted it for competition in Cannes this May. It is also the first major film I've ever done where I received a solo Title Credit. A wide screen silhouette shot from "Giant" of James Dean to the right pacing out his land along a barbed wire fence. Sunset in the background and in the lower left portion of the dark ground is: 'Unit Production Manager - Urban E. Stiess'.



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COMMUNICATIONS SERVICE COMPANY

Amateur telecommunications on line

You may be interested in this site

<http://www.nature.com/news/2005/050117/full/050117-7.html>

from the Journal "Nature" which reports the success of the amateur community in processing and making use of the communications data from the Huygens spacecraft. There are some interesting images as well....

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION, New or Renewal

Return to membership chairman: Larry Mallek 2528 Britain Way, Anaheim CA, 92801-1413

CALL _____ NAME _____ DATE _____

MAILING ADDRESS _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP _____

E-MAIL _____

HOME TELEPHONE (____) ____ - _____ WORK TELEPHONE (____) ____ - _____

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